

COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC INSECT SURVEY REPORT
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Report 8, Volume 58
July 6, 2010

JAPANESE BEETLE: While checking insect traps on this date approximately 2 miles south of Galena in Cherokee County Japanese beetles were found at the northern edge of Shermerhorn Park. Adult beetles were found mating and feeding on wild grape. Feeding was very evident at the site and the beetles were not difficult to find. Feeding was only found on grape leaves. While beetles have been found in Northeast Kansas feeding on corn silks and soybeans this is the first instance that I know of where beetles have been found in a natural wooded area in the state. No beetles had been found previously at this site including last week when traps were checked. There is a small vineyard about one mile to the west of this infestation; the owner will be made aware of the situation. It is not known how the beetles got to this rather remote site but Joplin, Missouri which is just to the east is known to be heavily infested and there is another heavily infested site about 2-3 miles north of Galena and the infestation could have been by natural migration. There have also been new homes built in the area with new plantings of trees and shrubs and the beetles could have been brought in with rootballs. This small area is unique in Kansas and it will be interesting to monitor the situation over the coming years and observe what happens to the local flora.